

1 1. The Clerk of this Court shall promptly (a) serve a copy of the Petition and a copy
2 of this Order on the Attorney General for the State of California, or his authorized agent; and
3 (b) serve a copy of this Order on Petitioner.

4 2. If Respondent contends the Petition can be decided without the Court's reaching
5 the merits of Petitioner's claims (e.g., because Respondent contends Petitioner has failed to
6 exhaust any state remedies as to any ground for relief alleged in the Petition, or that the Petition
7 is barred by the statute of limitations, or that the Petition is subject to dismissal under Rule 9 of
8 the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases, or that all of the claims are procedurally defaulted, or that
9 Petitioner is not in custody), Respondent shall file a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 4 of the
10 Rules Governing § 2254 Cases no later than **October 13, 2008**. The motion to dismiss shall not
11 address the merits of Petitioner's claims, but rather shall address all grounds upon which
12 Respondent contends dismissal without reaching the merits of Petitioner's claims is warranted.¹
13 At the time the motion to dismiss is filed, Respondent shall lodge with the Court all records
14 bearing on Respondent's contention in this regard. A hearing date is not required for the motion
15 to dismiss.

16 3. If Respondent files a motion to dismiss, Petitioner shall file his opposition, if any,
17 to the motion no later than **November 12, 2008**. At the time the opposition is filed, Petitioner
18 shall lodge with the Court any records not lodged by Respondent which Petitioner believes may
19 be relevant to the Court's determination of the motion.

20 4. Unless the Court orders otherwise, Respondent shall not file a reply to Petitioner's
21 opposition to a motion to dismiss. If the motion is denied, the Court will afford Respondent
22 adequate time to respond to Petitioner's claims on the merits.

23 5. If Respondent does not contend that the Petition can be decided without the Court
24 reaching the merits of Petitioner's claims, Respondent shall file and serve an answer to the
25 Petition, as well as points and authorities in support of such answer, no later than
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28 ¹ If Respondent contends Petitioner has failed to exhaust any state remedies as to any ground for relief alleged in the Petition, the motion to dismiss shall also specify the state remedies still available to Petitioner.

1 **October 28, 2008.** At the time the answer is filed, Respondent shall lodge with the Court all
2 records bearing on the merits of Petitioner's claims. The lodgments shall be accompanied by
3 a notice of lodgment which shall be captioned "**Notice of Lodgment in 28 U.S.C. § 2254**
4 **Habeas Corpus Case — To Be Sent to Clerk's Office.**" Respondent shall not combine
5 separate pleadings, orders or other items into a combined lodgment entry. Each item shall be
6 numbered separately and sequentially.

7 6. Petitioner may file a traverse to matters raised in the answer no later than
8 **December 1, 2008.** Any traverse by Petitioner (a) shall state whether Petitioner admits or denies
9 each allegation of fact contained in the answer; (b) shall be limited to facts or arguments
10 responsive to matters raised in the answer; and (c) shall not raise new grounds for relief that
11 were not asserted in the Petition. Grounds for relief withheld until the traverse will not be
12 considered. No traverse shall exceed ten (10) pages in length absent advance leave of Court for
13 good cause shown.

14 7. A request by a party for an extension of time within which to file any of the
15 pleadings required by this Order should be made in advance of the due date of the pleading, and
16 the Court will grant such a request only upon a showing of good cause. Any such request shall
17 be accompanied by a declaration under penalty of perjury explaining why an extension of time
18 is necessary.

19 8. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, this case shall be deemed submitted on the
20 day following the date Petitioner's opposition to a motion to dismiss and/or his traverse is due.

21 9. Every document delivered to the Court must include a certificate of service
22 attesting that a copy of such document was served on opposing counsel (or on the opposing
23 party, if such party is not represented by counsel). Any document delivered to the Court without
24 a certificate of service will be returned to the submitting party and disregarded by the Court.

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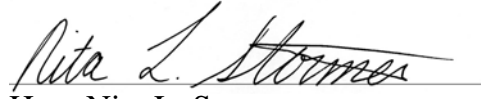
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1 10. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Court and counsel for Respondent of any
2 change of Petitioner's address. If Petitioner fails to keep the Court informed of where Petitioner
3 may be contacted, this action will be subject to dismissal for failure to prosecute.

4 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

5 DATED: August 29, 2008

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7 Hon. Nita L. Stormes
8 U.S. Magistrate Judge
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